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We may be permitted to state that the views of our contributors and correspondents do not necessarily reflect the policy of the Wednesday Review.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

If what the London Correspondent of the *Statesman* says is true, there is still hope that the reform bill may not turn out to be a piece of wild-cat legislation. The Correspondent understands that Mr. Montagu may be obliged to modify some of the more controversial points of the bill, owing to strong opposition in the Lords. It is said that he may give way on the question of communal representation. But what is more important is that Mr. Montagu should be forced to drop his diarchy altogether. That is the most dangerous part of the bill but the pity of it is that the supporters of it have been taken in by Mr. Montagu's specious argument that if there be no diarchy there will be no responsible popular Government in India. Mr. Montagu has not paused to inquire if those conditions exist which will make the ministerial system of administration possible in this country. The most surprising part of his performance is that in several places in the joint-report he has admitted that over 94 per cent of the population are illiterate and an intelligent electorate can come into existence only with the spread of education. But in making his diarchy proposals he coolly ignores what he himself admits to be a fact and proceeds to build an imposing political fabric whose foundation must necessarily be an intelligent electorate. Another ridiculous argument in favour of diarchy is that no one has been able to produce an alternative to it, as if it was anybody's business to come out with an alternative to all impossible proposals which Mr. Montagu may choose to spring upon an unwary public. And yet such an argument is seriously put forward in favour of diarchy both by Mr. Montagu's apologists in Parliament and the India Office and his supporters outside. The *Statesman's* Correspondent says that Mr. Montagu is still bent on diarchy but here again it is likely that he will consent to temporary modifications in view of the representations of the Provincial Governments. The very fact that the Provincial Governments with negligible expceptions have braved the wrath of the Secretary of State and have given him a bit of their mind must convince the Select Committee and Parliament that diarchy is not to be thought of till the material to work it without danger to the general population becomes available in India. Meanwhile it is incumbent on everybody concerned to knock diarchy on the head and get rid of it at the Committee stage of the bill.

Mr. Mian Mahomed Shafi's appointment in succession to Sir Sankaran Nair has not apparently

satisfied the fire-eaters. Mr. Shafi is not a furious politician and he cannot be expected to create sensations. That circumstance must appear to all sensible people as about the best qualification for a responsible member of the Government. Whatever the extremist press may think of him, we have no doubt Mr. Shafi will fully justify his choice. He has given an excellent account of himself at the Legislative Council where his contributions to the debates have always been marked by sobriety and commonsense. It is true that he does not come to his appointment with the same public reputation as Sir Sankaran Nair. But then Sir Ali Imam was not a congress-walah or a platform orator when he was chosen for the office and we have Lord Hardinge's testimony that he was a signal success. Even Lord Sinha was not a front-rank politician as front-rank politicians go in India but who can deny that he made an ideal councillor and was as independent of 'bureaucratic' influences as the sturdiest congress-walah that ever held forth by the hour at Delhi or Calcutta. At the helm of affairs we want statesmen and not politicians and in Mr. Shafi we have the making of a sound statesman and helpful councillor.

In the death of Dr. Nair Indian public life loses one of its most conspicuous figures. His reputation as a public man was not of the spurious kind which has given us of late so many idols at the market place with unmistakeable clay feet. He came into prominence quite early in life and since then each day only added to his reputation as a well-informed and reliable public leader. He was as thorough a hater of shams as the late Labouchre and wielded as trenchant a pen in exposing them. Dr. Nair was absolutely devoid of any maudlin sentiment which very often does duty for patriotism and had no sympathy for those who indulged in it. His great talents as a speaker and writer were always at the disposal of the public and he never stinted them for any public cause. His best work was done at the Corporation and he brought to bear upon it his wide information and clear commonsense. He did more than any other to quicken the civic consciousness of his fellow-citizens and it is a pity that he should have been snatched away just when his help and advice would be most valuable in the development of civic life in Madras.

It is really deplorable that just now when the Empire's statesmen are striving to cement the ties between the different parts of it the South Africans should be forging unjust laws against a class of His Majesty's subjects who have done so much to make South Africa pleasent and profitable to the white population. The Asiatic Land and Trading Amendment Bill is an iniquitous piece of legislation interfering with the just rights of Indian as British Citizens. Little good is done by passing testimonials to Indians as loyal supporters of the Crown and belauding their share in bringing the war to a victorious close, if the Imperial Government should sit with folded hands and allow the South African Parliament to pass any law it pleased against the Indians. It is a bastard imperialism which would suffer any class of people in the Empire to be consigned to the condition of helots in any part of it. The boast of imperialism is hollow mockery if the Indian cannot say whereever the British flag floats, *Civis Brittanicus Sum* The new law will surely render the position of Indians in South Africa worse than it is, which is saying a great deal and there can be no excuse for the Imperial Government for not withholding its assent to the bill. It is no good telling us that South Africa is a self-governing Colony and the Imperial Government cannot properly interfere. If that plea should be allowed, it must be open to Indians and their Government to adopt such retaliatory measures as would bring the South Africans to their senses. Will the Imperial Government acquiesce in them? The answer to it will be the measure of the genuineness of the Imperial sentiment which is being exploited for all it is worth.

Reuter is obliging enough to send bits of news of the doings of the varions deputations which are overrunning the United Kingdom, Mr. Montagu seems to have taken some of them under his wing and it is needless to add that they comprise a small body who have promised to stand by him through thick and thin. Accounts of their doings make amusing reading. They leave no chance to slip by without informing the world that Mr. Montagu is India's political Messiah and his bill will be her gospel for evermore. With such obliging henchmen his task is easy but in his modesty he does not make it appear that they are his chosen apostles. On occasion he affects to treat them as entire strangers to him and their views a sealed book. We have a delightful specimen of this comouflage. We are told by Reuter that a deputation which has labelled itself moderate waited on the Secretary of State who gave it a patient hearing and asked the members to submit a memorandum to the joint-committee. Mr. Montagu will of course present it to the Committee with his own endorsement thereon, though he seeks to justify his membership of it by saying that he will merely act as the Post-Office. If the Deputation gets up a meeting on its own account and arranges with somebody else to invite it and extend the invitation to Mr. Montagu, you may be sure that Mr. Montagu will be there to praise his own bill or

send a letter praising it. The meetings of the Deputation are as useful to it as to Mr. Montagu and the close co-operation that exists between what is called the Moderate Deputation and the Secretary of State and the opportunities created by both to bless the reform bill must convince the Select Committee of the desirability of hearing other and more independent evidence than what may be supplied by the deputation and Mr. Montagu's nominees. Our suspicion that only such evidence as would support the bill will be preferred is strengthened by the reply which Mr. Montagu gave in Parliament to a question by Col. Yate. Col. Yate asked who were the gentlemen at present in England who were well qualified to explain the views of Local Governments in India before the Joint-Committee and Mr. Montagu replied that he had given the Committee the names of all gentlemen at present in England who seemed qualified to give evidence and the Committee would decide whom to hear. That is not enlightening. In his eyes only those who are pledged to his proposals would appear to be qualified to give evidence. Mr. Montagu might as well have given out the names of the gentlemen he has recommended. His mysterious reference to them is a trifle suspicious and we shall not be surprised if his nominees turn out to be those who in some capacity or other have praised his proposals.

The London Correspondent of the *Maharatta* is despondent. He is disappointed that various Indian deputations in England cannot come on a common platform, Despite social occasions which well-meaning friends are creating to bring them together, the deputations will not coalesce. It would appear Mr. Tilak organised a party and sent round invitations to all including Sir. B. Mitter we suppose, Col. Wedgewood ran it and each deputation told him its position as regards the reform bill but would not join hands with the other. The Colonel, the resourceful politician that he is, told them that since they could not come together he would take his own line of action. Here is another situation. Mrs. Besant has gone to England with the express purpose of interesting the Labour Party of which she has become a member in Indian affairs. It is notorious that of late she has developed into an active partisan of Mr. Montagu and when she left India she told her friends that she would give her valuable help to the Secretary of State in his work. But Mr. Montagu is not appreciative of the fact that Mrs. Besant is a great factor in the Labour Party, at any rate she values herself so; and he speaks slightingly of a small labour group who are busy interfering in Indian affairs, and tells them they had better leave India alone. So that we have a lot of people in England who as Col. wedgewood said in referring to himself are taking their own line of action. The Joint-Committee must be fairly perplexed over it if all the various deputations claim to be heard by them and they may find out in the end that in a multitude of counsel there is no wisdom.

Mr. Gandhi's retreat is being gracefully effected. Some months ago when he was on the war path, it was the Viceroy who sought an interview with the intrepid leader of the Satyagraha and tried in vain to persuade him to give it up. Mr. Ghandi was inexorable but now when the results of the campaign have been made clear it is Mr. Gandhi who is kind enough to intimate to His Excellency that he intends to resume Satyagraha but he would drop it if the Rowlatt Act was expunged. But the pity of it is, the matter is not in the Viceroy's hands. His Excellency could not grant Mr. Gandhi's request in respect of the Rowlatt Act and in regard to his intimation that he would resort to civil disobedience, the Bombay Government have warned him against it. In his latest epistle to Satyagrahis Mr. Gandhi expresses his unwillingness to counsel civil disobedience in deference to the warning and it is surely very prudent of the Satyagraha hero. It won't do to defy the powers that be especially when they are wide awake. We are realy glad that Mr. Gandhi is toning down. A retreat need not always be hasty and undignified. You may effect your retreat with measured steps and slow, with your face to the enemy. That is what Mr. Gandhi is doing.

We heartily commend to our readers the following appeal by Mr. C. G. Austin I. C. S., Collector of Trichinopoly in aid of the Indian Imperial Soldiers' Relief Fund:—His Excellency the Viceroy appeals for funds for the Imperial Indian Relief Fund, and I request you to do what you can to help the Fund. As you are no doubt aware, the primary objects of the Fund are to relieve distress among the families of soldiers absent on service and to assist the widows and orphans of those who have died in service ; and a secondary object of the Fund is to relieve distress among the poorer classes of the people caused directly by the war. There are in this District many cases of the kind which the Fund is intended to benefit. There are many soldiers' widows left in poor circumstances. There are many mothers and other dependents of soldiers with barely enough to live on. There are several cases of families heavily indebted whose circumstances could be bettered by a small donation, and many who have been compelled to mortgage their houses and other property to meet unavoidable expenses. I earnestly request you to assist the Fund both by subscribing to it and by inducing others to subscribe.

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INCREASE OF FOOD SUPPLIES.

The Madras Government have issued an important communique discussing at some length the situation in regard to food-supply in this presidency and proposing certain measures for its increase. They have done well to remove the notion that even with the signing of the peace, normal conditions in the world will not be restored immediately and the transport of goods must be temporarily restricted owing to the continuance of the effects of the destruction of ships and the wearing out of railway stock until they can be replaced. Most people imagine that as peace has been made things will resume their pre-war conditions and there will be no further trouble for them. They should be told that there have been other world-factors at work, besides the war which have contributed to the great rise in prices. Some of them will persist in spite of peace and this fact ought to be made known to the public lest they should labour under false hopes. The most effective remedy for the abnormal rise in prices will be the increased outturn of food crops. This may be done as the Government point out in their communique by increasing the yield per acre, the area under cultivation and by mitigating the damage to crops by pests. To them we may add, the employment of less wasteful and more economical methods of cultivation. It is notorious that a great deal of human energy is wasted by the ordinary ryot in India in cultivating his holding. He can easily double the yield per acre by the expenditure of half the energy if he uses improved implements and adopts more scientific methods. The Agricultural Department is doing a great deal in this respect but it has to over-come not only conservatism of ages but also what is more difficult, the system of small holdings which is a serious obstacle to agricultural development on any large scale. No doubt the Indian weather has much to do with the uncertainties of food supply and the failure of a single monsoon in India means starvation to millions. In 1915—16 owing to unfavourable weather conditions, there was a fall of 170,000 acres in the area under cultivation, while a favourable monsoon in the following year resulted in an increase of 5340000 acres. These figures will show how much we have to depend upon the monsoon for our food-supply. One of the remedies for such uncertainties is to make large areas under cultivation as independent of rain as possible. The best way of ensuring it is the construction of wells. We are glad that the Government propose to facilitate the sinking of wells by means of state-loans and they are employing a special staff for the purpose. It is also encouraging to note that the Government have relaxed the rule insisting upon separate applications and separate security under the Agricultural Loans Act and the Land Improvement Loans Act, and they have directed that a consolidated loan may be granted on a single security if it is sufficient. It is a much needed amendment in the rules regulating the grant of loans and we have been urging it on the Government for years past. At present if a ryot applies for a loan under the Agricultural Loans Act for the purchase of a pair of bulls, seed-grain or manure on the security of his holding, he cannot offer it as security for a loan under the Land Improvement Loans Act if he wants to sink a well in it, remove prickly pear or effect sundry improvement in it, even though the value of the security offered is enough for both the loans. Such hard and fast rules whose purpose is not clear seriously interfere with attempts at land improvement by ryots who have no ready money and also make the popular administration of the Loans Acts difficult. The Government will find that the relaxation of the rules will be widely appreciated and the agriculturists will not be slow to take advantage of it. The Government point out that it will pay to increase the out-turn per acre by improved methods of cultivation and the use of manures, at present owing to the heavy prices ruling which in ordinary times the land-owners may hesitate to use on the score of expense. With a view to induce the ryots to extend the area under cultivation of food crops the Government propose to make certain concessions one of which is that dry food grains may be cultivated during fasli 1329 free of assessment on any unoccupied assessed Government land in the presidency on which crops have not been raised during fasli 1327 or 1328. That is a poor concession. To bring under cultivation assessed waste will mean a decent outlay by the ryot and he will not be willing to invest it if the concession is only for a single fasli. After all the concession means that the ryot need not pay a rupee or so to Government. If the concession should be attractive the ryot must be allowed to cultivate the waste for at least three years. Here also the Government may advance money to the ryot for the initial outlay which will be a real help to him and allow him to pay it back in easy instalments. If the Government are satisfied that the grantee has taken pains to improve the land they may assign it over to him under darkest rules.

MY OLD VISITOR.

BY G. K.

HIS days were done! He looked a tatterdamelion, a dilapidated specimen of humanity sliding down the wale of life. Framed in the clinging pair of grey side wiskers and a daily diminishing tuft of grey hair about his aged temples and a pair of tooth brush mustaches, the lean battered face evoked your sympathy from underneath the stately coils of an Indian turban, sometimes red, sometimes white as the poverty stricken wardrobe of the old man supplied. He looked certainly a bedraggled fellow in his baggy cloths, his dirty socks gathering about his ankles and his toes sticking out of his warn shoes. A pathetic figure making a valiant struggle at smartness in the midst of dire helplessness and poverty!

But still in that tattered tenement lived a bounding cheerful soul! Life jogged on apace in the rattling bones and the face lighted up with a smile whenever he met you.

Trampish of aspect he looked not a bit strange and uninviting on the road on seeing him casually you would have thought of closing your door against him. But his ingratiating smile quickly disaimed your suspicion. Beneath the shrunken cheeks and silvery locks you found the sunniest soul that ever lived to be seventy and seven and laughed over life as a great game. In his shaby raggedness he had a strange charm of manner, a sweetness of speech, and a subtle humour that lighted in his talk which hugely interested you.

As an old man, he loved to live in the imagery of the past took his holidays of ease and leisure in his old age and talked of old times. He had fostered a partiality for old songs and ballads which suddenly broke off in the midst of his conversation which was amusing in the extreme. His memory failed him half way. But this trick of time amused his cheery soul, as he paused and reflected and remembered the missing rhymes. His shrunken eyes too weak to watch the world any longer narrowed and the fooling of Time brought amused wrinkles around his mouth illuminating the cinhs and crannies of his age worn face. Then he looked the picture of a battered bard kept at bay, sans song sans memory, sans inspiration. But he was not to be defeated. He flared up again in an instant and the old shaky voice sounded on in gleeful quavers right up to the end.

Down at the heels out at the elbows, seventy and seven though he was, there was a bright alloy of worldliness still in his soul and in his aged heart still rang the malodies of ancient music. He looked clumsy but none the less a picturesque personality stick in hand as he rattled away for hours stories and songs during his morning visits and received a "single" as he chose to call the Rupee. I liked to give him. Poor soul!

He hobbles just now down the gravel drive. Keeping close to the hedge depending more on his stuff than on his eye-sight picking out his weary way. It will indeed be a pity when he can walk and talk no more.

But the memory of the tattered trampish figure with the cheerful smile and song and a laugh for Life will live.

CO-OPERATIVE GOVERNMENT.

BY "WORKMAN."

As political agitation takes in all forms of attraction and repulsion to gain ends, including the use of Truth and Lies, for which the Press of all countries is shown to be a handy medium, Governments are to be congratulated when they take the Public into their confidence, as much through the Press as through the speeches ef responsible statesmen; so that the Truth may be known and the Lies exposed.

The value of the Press to any country depends on the intelligence and tact with which it is used at any time, or on any occasion. It is however as liable to the influences that result in strategy and tactics, both in war and diplomacy, as those that affect the work and Government, not only of the individual but of whole masses.

Humanity is attracted by the Truth, and is repelled by Lies, deceit and treachery. Yet, Lies are used for Inter-national warfare; and there are codes of morals that differentiate between white and black Lies, on the ground that Truth does not always serve the 'purpose' on hand! and occasionally exposes ugliness.

The inconvenience comes in however when the parties to a deep are mutually, deceiving one another, because they are at 'cross purposes', or both trying to keep up an appearance of beauty which has no foundation! But this is not the only source of trouble. Parties may have the same high purpose in view, but approach its attainment by different plans and methods that cause waste of power and even conflict. If the above is accepted as Truth the moral to be drawn from it seems to be sit tight in a safe position till all concerned are unanimous over the Purpose of a move; then, before you move, agree on a plan and method of working it that does not leave you less safe than before.

When all know the 'grand purpose' and how it is gradually being carried out, frictions of dispositions and difficulties in co-operation are reduced to a minimum; Governments are then loved and trusted the neighbour's sins and ignorances are freely forgiven; and the world's intelligence rules it by common sense.

We then begin to see the reason why Govenments must on behalf of peoples, check the abuse of any of the means at hand for disturbing the public security. If power is not existent for this essential purpose, than we might at once abandon all intention of proceeding with Econmic developments which mean the provision of railways, workshops, and industrial organisations, that can easily be used for facilitating mass attacks, or abused for interruptions in the production and distribution of the daily bread to all the population & made a source of 'black mail' on the public by

strikes of the workers for special advantages, liable to disorgainse other trades and the whole business of the country.

Thus, if economic development is to be accepted as an aid to necessary work and uplift of humanity all the world over, it requires the world to recognise the Fundamental Principle at the bottom of it; that there may be no working at cross purposes', or striving at impossible ideals and irreconcilable propositions.

We want, therefore and must have the fundamental principle of world work and Government 'organisation defined' and agreed to, and the spirit in which Humanity should be approached determined, before economic development can be pushed with complete safety.

The right spirit has been pointed out for thousands of years and is well known through the pronouncements of the Divines. But the organisations for work have not been completed upto date, and war are the consequence. So slow has been the world's progress in this respect that there are two great parties one of which asserts that wars are inevitable, and the other that they are absolutely unnecessary.

The Divines show that all organisation of masses requires sacrifices of 'free' will for the common purpose and the only war required, is that which an intelligent individual wages against his inclinations to rebel against the 'purpose', either from ignorance or design.

As regards the work system, the League of Nations offers the means of arriving at a preliminary agreement on the principles of organisation. We must wish it the greatest success; but progress is evidently hampered by the friction of the two great parties one wanting to organise for war (Germany) and the other (the Allies) for Peace.

Evidently we cannot have peace without war against our unbridled desires and passions, & must exercise our wits to secure by good methods the 'daily bread' to all humanity.

Meanwhile, the advise proffered by different agencies affords us at least much amusement, if it is not immediately a practicable source of action.

A Governor who departs without having involved the administration in confusion to give effect to the wildest peace theories in the midst a war is pronounced a failure.

Those whose agitations have had for their inspiration the infallibility attaching to the legal profession' for the lead in all emergencies, are sorely tried by circumstances admitting no delay for argument.

The 'Spiritualists' that preach of love omitting duty prove that rules have some exceptions; notably when Governments and laws are necessary to make a Nation's work effective, and the people safe from foes within and without the realm.

The 'Bureaux' where unholy ledgers and account books are immagined to smell of brimstone proceeding from the regions below, are held in general detestation, like the offices of the Mahajan and the wily Bunniya whole books if burnt would it is thought cancel all debts owing!

Again, a Governor is said to be at his level best when he is tied to a stool in the inferno, and compels his Councillors also to inspiration from the clerks beside him. (*Madras Times* June II)

Horror is felt that the administration should forsake the plains in the heat of Summer, while the many Indians prefer the Hills.

But the work of Governors is not that of the cleric charged with records and routine, but deciding policy on personal responsibility, with the facts afforded by the Departments concerned, and the suggestions of the Councillors. Matters are seldom so urgent that ordinary business requires Council meetings to dispose of it, while Executive business is conducted everywhere under Powers delegated to the officers in responsible charge.

TOPICS FROM PERIODICALS.

FUEL ECONOMY.

THERE are many ways of burning fuel, all varying in economy and that depends largely on the method of use. Coal requires a chimney, it requires time to light up, so that it cannot be used immediately nor in very small quantities. Coke is still worse in this respect. Wood burns up more rapidly but still requires a chimney. Charcoal is quickly ignited, does not smoke and may be used without a chimney in a well ventilated kitchen. Gas and kerosine lamps may be quickly lighted and extinguished and when properly handled are smokeless. But an ordinary kettle boiled over a ring gas burner only utilises about 22½ per cent. of the heat produced. After boiling takes place very little heat enters the water, the greater portion goes to waste and it is here that the various devices for preventing the cooling of the water come into use for, once placed in a well-made cooking box, the water may be kept hot for many hours without any further expenditure of fuel. Water absorbs a greater amount of heat to raise its temperature than any other substance and when cooling, it discharges an equal amount. When soup is prepared and all its ingredients are heated to the boiling point the water contains heat enough to finish the process if the pan is placed in a closed cooking box that protects it from cooling. In this way the various dishes of a meal may be successively boiled or steamed and finished in the cooking box while using only one fire or burner. Cooking boxes are also made for temperatures above that of boiling water. They are heated with a slab of metal to produce temperatures for roasting and baking.

When heat is required in small amounts, gas, oil and electricity have many advantages and of the three, electricity offers the highest economy, that is to say, the least loss in application. An electric lighting bulb may be immersed in the water it has to boil, and electric heaters may be put in intimate contact with the object to be heated without risk of smoke or smell. Among the ways ef economising heat, the use of jakets

around cooking vessels is one of the simplest. When the hot gases have run along the bottom of the vessels they escape and their utility is ended, but with jaket that leaves a sufficient space for the passages of three gases, the sides of the vessel then become additional heating surface. Such a jaket of metal fitted to a Primus lamp protects the flame from air currents and turns the sides of the vessels into heating surface which amounts to doubling the area.

Economy of fuel is closely allied to control of temperature which has such an influence on good coocking that it has a double claim on our attention. A source of heat that once adjusted may be depended on to continue without variation offers many advantages. Cooking operation may be timed exactly and less attention is needed. Excess of heat is avoided, an important matter in India, and cleanliness is promoted.

The heating of dwellings offers another field for fuel economy that receives very little attention in India. Badly constructed chimneys often need a good deal of heating before they will "draw," and once started, they may draw too much air through the room from without. A wood fire on a hearth level with the floor cannot warm the floor by radiation; its influence is upon walls and furniture and through them on the air. The object of the chimney is to carry off the products of combustion along with a moderate amount of free air. An Indian house is rarely stuffy in cold weather; it is too leaky, and a strong chimney draught increases the leakage. In the cold season the in-door temperature is generally only a little below the comfortable point and a moderate amount of artificial heat is all that is needed to ensure comfort. So small is the amount that it may be obtained without the aid of a fire in the room. We have already noted that water takes more heat to warm it than any other substance, so hot water may conveniently be employed to heat air, that requires less heat to warm it than any other substance. The same amount of heart required to warm a cubic foot of water, one degree would warm 195 cubic feet of air to the same amount. The hot water foot warmer so well-known in English railway carriages furnishes the idea and an empty 5 gallon turpentine drum provides the means of application. The drum should be well cleaned and fitted with a good cork. It must be filled nearly full of water to which a couple of ounces of washing soda should be added to prevent rusting. The cork should be attached by a cord to the handle. The water is brought to the boil over a clear fire (with the mouth open) then corked and placed beneath a convenient table from which for a whole evening a pleasant current of clean warm air will continue to flow. In a tent this device is invaluable. The same water remains in the drum to be re-heated. The turpentine drum does not draw air through the chamber like a fire, and although the heat is second hand, so to speak, it serves its purpose better than a stove and it has no fire risks. It wlll be evident from the foregoing that the cost per pound or per ton is no measure of the economy of any fuel. Each variety has its special applications depending upon local circumstances, and the period during which it has to be used. When used for heating bath water the drum should have a second opening in the top but opposite to the other to admit air; thus allowing the water to flow out in a steady stream and rapidly. The second opening should fit a wine or beer cork. When placed near a bed at night the rate of escape of heat may be regulated by folding a rug round it. It may also provide a warm bath in the morning In this way a given quantity of heat may be carried about and distributed just like soda water or any other commodity.—"*W*" *in capital*

THE NOMADS IN INDIA.

THE ADMINISTRATION.

All embracing despot, though the Delhi Sultan was, he had neither the inclination nor the energy to exercise all the power that the theory and the nature of his position had gathered into his hands. He had neither the vision nor the capacity necessary in the head of a highly centralised system of Government. He had neither the will nor the hardihood of a European absolute ruler of the 18th century. It is indeed not strictly accurate to call the Delhi Sultanate a despotism, because this despotism was never insistent and never felt as a rule in all branches of administration. The Delhi Sultan was a despot only when he got the chance, by fits and starts, rather than in a systematic, consistent manner. His despotism, because he would not exercise all of it, was shared with others. He hąd preforce to delegate his power. But the men to whom he delegated his authority were satraps rather than servants. By the necessity of his position he shared his power with his governors rather than devolved it upon them. The Delhi administration was a Government through satraps.

The main features of the satrapial form of Government, as we know them, for instance, from the history of Ancient Persia, are reproduced in the provincial Government of Mahomadan India. The governors or viceroys of the Delhi Sultans, like those of Darius, were his deputies appointed by him and dependent on him. But they held their offices on the one and only condition of remitting to the Delhi Treasury, the contracted tribute of the province, of furnishing the contracted quota of troops and supplying provisions to the royal army on the march. Apart from this, they were allowed to rule their province almost as they pleased. Detailed intructions or rules of service were out of the question. The Nawabs or Subedars of these provinces were despots in miniature. And as often happens with satrapial Government, the most powerful among the governors set themselves up as rulers in their own right and in their own domain, whenever the supreme ruler showed sings of weakness. Authority and power were respected by them only so long as they continued to be so in

fact. The State to them was a Person, not an idea. The notion that public servants must obey the supreme Government, whether its representative was strong or weak, was absolutely foreign to them. Weakness, they thought, was the one unpardonable sin of rulers. In a subordinate capacity the Sultan's viceroy was the commander of the army, chief judge in criminal matters, and the source of honour and authority in the province. His authority was limited by the Sultan's right or rather power to recall him, by the right which could not always be realised of appeal to the supreme ruler, and by the existence in the province of certain officials appointed by and directly subordinate to the Sultan. The financial and revenue officials known variously as Diwans, or Nizams or Shikhdyrs who collected the revenue or tribute cf the province from the Zamindars. to whom it was formed, and made the imperial disbursements served as a check upon the tyranny of the provincial governor. An additional obstacle of provincial, tyranny, as in the empire Darius, was found in the official spies who were employed on a large scale by the most efficient of the Sultans of Delhi. In Ghiasudin Balban's time, spies were used to watch the fiefs of nobles as well as great cities and important and distant towns. Allaudin employed the spy system on such an extensive scale that no one could stir without his knowledge and whatever happened in the houses of nobles or of great men and officials was immediately communicated to the Sultan. The Moguls employed public and secret newswriters or reporters. Aurangzib's spies, it was said, used to know even the thoughts of men. It is possible that many of these spies were mere official reporters like the Scribe or Royal Secretary, who according to Herodotus, was set to watch over the Persian satrap. In fact, in the later Mogul times, we find two kinds of reporters the *wakiahnavis* who were public, and the *Khufyananavis* who were secret reporters. But there is no doubt that many of these reporters were spies pure and simple. These reporters or spies were the eyes and ears of the Sultan. The existence of provincal officers like the Fouzdar who was the Judge of the court of crimes, the Kotwal who was the head of the Police, and the Kazi the Civil Judge, might be thought to have detracted from the Subherdar's vast authority. But thanks to a kind of spoils system which obtained even under Akbar's regime, provincial governors had the right, *de facto* if not *de Juri*, of appointing and dismissing these subordinate provincial officials. So that, the multiplicity and diversity of offices was rather a help than a check to the capacity of the governors. The imperial financial and revenue officials saw only to the collection and remittance of the imperial revenue. And the danger on adverse reports from spies or reporters was extreme, and by that very token precarious; because it was not every Sultan that could take action on these reports, and the reports of spies are valueless except to put a stop to crying evils and to inflict the supreme punishment. The existence in a subah of important feudatory native Rajahs with their semi-sovereign powers and of important Zamindar and Talukdars, who although, originally mere farmers of the imperial revenue, in course of time won for themselves a kind of seignorial jurisdiction over the people who once paid them the Sultan's taxes, but who have now become their tenants and dependents was also a rift in the lute of satrapial despotism. But within these limits, as a rule, and in the reigns of the easy going Sultans who indeed fill the longest stretch of the Mahomedan regime, the provincial satraps were their own masters.

The appointment of the governors of the provinces was one of the chief worries of the Sultans of Mahomedan India. The selection of able and energetic men while a blessing for the provincials might lead to the Padshah's sovereignty being put into jeopardy. If they sent incompetent representatives, there was the danger of the provinces rising against their rulers and winning back their independence. The most dangerous provincial governors were the near relatives, especially the brothers or sons of the Sultan. The system of distributing appanages to the sons of the reigning Sultan was one of the chief causes of the anarchy that distracted the reigns of even the most fortunate of the Mogul Padshahs. Even Aurungzib who of all people ought to have known better, made a will dividing his kingdom among his four sons, thus bequeathing to his successor the troubles which only he could ride and direct. But Aurungzib at least had the statemanship to direct that a noble should not be sent as governor to a province where his own estates were placed. And in Mahomedan India the tenure under which the governors held their offices never developed into feudalism proper because the Sultan, being the absolute owner of all land and property, the governorships or satrapies could never become hereditary.

SOME ASPECTS OF ANCIENT ARABIAN POETRY.

Mr. F. F. Arbuthnot justly remarks that the Arabs especially the Spanish ones were extremely fond of learning. Indeed it is due to them to a very great extent that literature and science were kept afloat in Europe during the ages that followed the invasion of the Barbarians as the Huns, Vandals Goths and Visigoths were generally called. That interval known as the 'Dark ages' was kept alight by the Arabs alone. Abdur-Rahman II. established a library at Cordova during his (reign 822—852 A. D.) Hakim II the successor of Abdur Rahman III. loved the sciences, founded the University of Cordova, and collected a library of great magnitude (961-976 A. D.)

The revial of learning in Europe is chiefly attributed to the writings of Arabian doctors and philosophers and to the schools, which they founded in several parts of Spain and Italy. These seats of learning were frequented even in the twelfth

century of the Christian era by students from various parts of Europe, who disseminated the knowledge, thus acquired when they returned to their own countries. At that time many Arabic works were translated into Latin, which thus facilitated the progress of science. Europe is also indebted to the Arabs for the elements of many useful sciences particularly that of Chemistry Paper was first made in Europe by them and their carpets and manufactures in steel and leather were long unrivalled, while in the Arabian schools of Cordova, Mathematics, Astronomy, Philosophy, Botany and Medicine, were taught with great success. Europe at one time, was lighted by the torch of Arabian learning and the middle ages were stamped with the genius and character of Arab civilization.

The Arabian poetry being one of the best means of studying the history of the Arabs especially of the Ancient Arabs, it will be interesting to review it in that light. Their poetry is the public register of the Arab people. By its means geneologies are remembered and glorious deeds handed down to posterity or as Mohammad iba-i-Salamul Jamhi says 'Verse in the days of ignorance was to the Arabs, the register of all they knew and the utmost compass of their wisdom' with it they began their affairs, and with it they ended them.' It is this historical character even more than its high poetical interest which gives it unique value to the composition of the ancient Arab poets.

It is impossible to fix with any degree of certainty the date when the Arabs first began to practise the art of poetry. The oldest poets of whom we have any records belong to the time of war of Al-Basus or shortly before that which would place them about a hundred and thirty years before the beginning of the Muslimera. But these are spoken of not as the inventors of the poetic art but as the authorities for the laws ef the Qasidah or ode, a form of composition which is subject to very rigid conventions as to the contents and sequence of its parts. What we possess of the distinguished poets to whom these laws were due is cost in form which we cannot but suppose to be the outcome of a long education in the construction of verse as Mr. Nicholson aptly remarks 'probably all the Pre Islamic poems which have come down to us belong to the century preceding Islam (500-622 A. D.)' but their elaborate form and technical perfection forbid the hypothesis that in them we have "the first sprightly runnings'; of Arabian song. It may be said of these magnificent odes, as of the Iliad and Odyssey that 'they are works of highly finished art, which could not possibly have been produced until the poetical art had been practised for a long time. They were preserved during hundreds of years by oral tradition and were committed to writing for the most part by the Muslim scholars of the early Abbaside age (between 750 and 900 A. B.)

When there appeared a poet in a family of the Arabs, the other tribes round about would gather together to that family and wish them joy of their good luck. Feasts would be got ready, the women of the tribe would join together in bands, playing upon lutes, as they were wont to die at bridals, and the men and boys would congratulate one another; for a poet was a defence to the honour of them all, a weapon to ward off insult from their good name and means of perpetuating their glorious deeds and of establishing their fame for ever. And they used to wish one another joy only for three things- the birth of a boy, the coming to light of a poet, and the foaling of a noble mare, In those days poetry was no luxury for the cultured few, but the sole medium of literary expression, Every tribe had its poets who freely uttered what they felt and thought. Their unwritten words flew across the desert faster than arrows and came home to the hearts and bosoms of all, who heard them. Poetry gave life and currency to an ideal of Arabian virtue or humanity, which though based on tribal community of blood and insisting that only ties of blood were sacred, nevertheless became an invisible bond between diverse clans and formed whether consciously or not, the basis of a national community of sentiment.

By the ancient Arabs the poet as his name implies, was held to be a person endowed with supernatural knowledge, a wizard in league with spirits and dependent on them for the magical powers, which he displayed. This view of his personality as well as the influential position, which he occupied, are curiously indicated by the story of a certain youth, who was refused the hand of his beloved on the ground that he was neither a poet nor a soothsayer nor a water-diviner.

The idea of poetry as an art was developed afterwards; the Pagan is the oracle of his tribe, their guide in peace and their champion in war. It was to him they turned for counsel when they sought new pastures, only at his words would they pitch or strike their houses of hair and when the tired and thirsty wanderers found a well and drank of its water and washed themselves, led by him they may have raised their voices togeher and sung like Israel—

"Spring up O'well, sing ye unto it."

Besides fountain songs and hymns to idols, other kinds of poetry must have existed in the earliest times *e. g.*, the love song and the dirge,

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SELECTION.

THE PRINCE OF WALES

HIS TASTES AND HABITS.

The Prince of Wales has become a "Savage" and a "Fishmonger"; he has visited the byways and hovels of the poor. The Prince has gone among his people.

What manner of man is the Heir to the Crown of England, who is celebrating his twenty-fifth birthday this month? In the past a too-rigid convention enshroded the inner personality of royalty. Princes were picture-book heroes, made to look beautiful and unapproachable. They appeared in public only on state occasions, in a blaze of pomp and circumstance, bedecked in gorgeous raiment of many colours.

All that belongs to the past. We find royalty walking down side streets in the slums, in order to discover first hand what are the problems of the people

The King and Queen and Prince of Wales certainly have many formal duties to perform in the course of the day, but to suppose that life at the Palace is one long ceremony is to believe in a hoary illusion. Take a day in the life of our modern and up-to-date young Prince. It will help one better to understand.

NO ARMY OF VALETS.

There is no fixed hour of rising. As in the case of ordinary people, it depends on what duties have devolved on him the previous day. An official dinner and a late dance would probably encourage him to snatch an extra hour in bed! Also there is no army of painfully anxious valets awaiting the master's awakening The Prince gets up and rings for his bath; he usually takes a cold plunge in preference to a hot bath. He never breakfasts in bed; neither does he send for his morning correspondence not his newspapers.

By nine o'clock he has breakfasted; the meal being very simple and sparse—probably a roll and some coffee. The Prince is not a great eater, and his breakfast is invariably "continental." In the mean-time his private secretary, Sir Godfrey Thomas, if looking through his correspondence. Nowadays this item is an ever incerasing one. An accumulation of public demands on the Prince which has been steadily growing since the war began necessitates a certain amount of overtime in this matter. Official correspondence may be said to occupy not only the better part of the morning, but old half-hours during the day.

HIS LETTER BAG.

The extent of these official calls may be gauged from the long list of the Prince's public duties. He is beginning to take a great interest in Freemasonry. He is president or patron of many hopitals and charitable organisations.

In addition to these duties, relative to which there is, of course, a certain amount of formal correspondence, the Prince has a by no means meagre private letter bag. To much of this correspondence he replies in his own hand, and this gives him occupation sometimes after dinner when there is nothing else to do. The Prince, in fact often sits up late writing letters.

Of late he has been deluged with requests from almost every other town to unveil war memorials or to pay them a visit during the peace celebrations. All sorts of people write to him, from beggars to lunatics. The latter by the way, are always of the friendly order. The begging letters come from genuine as well as professional correspondents, Every letter is closely inquired into and answered; it is known that no letter addressed to Buckingham Palace remains unanswered. Many of the communications, call for the personal attention of the Prince, so that immediately after breakfast he spends an hour or so with his private secretary in this occupation. The rest of the morning is spent in various ways. The Prince might read the newspapers or take a stroll or a motor ride until it is time for lunch.

Lunch is almost invariably taken "at home" On those occasions when the Prince lunches out he uses the Marlborough Club. He is a member of several clubs, but he mostly uses the Marlborough when he wishes to lunch or dine out, although his Royal Highness has been seen sometimes at the Ritz or the Berkeley Hotel, and the Bath Club for exercise in the form of sport. Lunch like brerkfast it may be added, is of a simple order with the Prince. In this respect he is like the King, who also has a moderate appetite.

Should he be attending a public function the Prince usually spends an hour or so after lunch getting his speech together. With the end of hostilities these duties are multiplying, so that between answering letters and arranging speeches the better part of the day is utilised. It must not be inferred that his speeches are written for him. He receives help but he always shows that he has his own way of thinking and saying things. If he desires to study a new subject he prefers to get hold of the right people with practical knowledge to coach him rather than to obtain theories from exercise books.

The Prince does not ride much nowadays but when he does he usually accompanies the King or is accompanied by Lord Stamfordham or any member of his household who happens to be free. The only real exercise of the day which his Royal Highness finds time enough to take is squash rackets. The Prince has been variously described as a keen swimmer and enthusist of tennis, golf, football shooting, running, long-distance walking, cycling, driving, motoring, fishing' and other sports but beyond all doubt his chief exercise and his best outdoor pastime is squash.

If it is at all possible to include this even on days when official duties occupy most of his time, the Heir to the Throne rushes off to the Bath Club, get into flannels, and indulges in his favourite game until the evening. For he is anxious to become an expert. Afterwards a cold spray or a bath, and he is ready for dinner.

The Prince has also a particular liking for swimming and golf. He is not an expert shot like his father, but he is universally declared to be an exceptionally fine motorist. The Prince does not play the piano or any other musical instrument, but

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he has a very good ear for music "He picks up tunes remarkably well." said an intimate friend.

The Prince of Wales is an inveterate smoker, and loves a pipe. The cigarette, however, is a favourite with him, the cigar not being much to his taste. At a photograph taken on the House of Commons terrace shows, he invariably lets his cigar go out! In this respect he is unlike the late King Edward, who never smoked anything but cigars. King George, however, is a consistent smoker of the cigarette. The Prince patronises a leading West End tobacconist for his cigarettes, and another establishment, which enjoys the patronage of several members of the Royal Family, for his tobacco.

The Prince's cigarettes are shorter than the ordinary kind, and are specially rolled in flax paper with gold-tipped ends. His favourite tobacco is of a Turkish make, and he is said to be possessed of a slightly curved briar pipe which he treasures very much.

The Prince pays particular heed to his attire, and usually calls in at his tailors' rather than receive them at Buckingham Palace. He has many tailors—naval! military and civilian —but he usually has two stock tailors to make his ordinary clothes. Like most men, he "takes up" a new tailor when the mood prompts him. If for instance, as happened recently he sees a friend with an overcoat that takes his fancy, he would inquire the name of the tailor, promptly call, and leave an order for a coat of the same sort.

A MODEST HOUSEHOLD.

The Prince has maintained his own household since he became of age; the war, however, interfered with the plans of his organising a separate establishment. His household at present, besides the two recently appointed equerries, includes Sir Sidney Greville who acts as Comptroller and Treasurer, and Sir, Godfrey John Vignoles Thomas who acts as his private secretary—a modest quartet.

It must not be inferred from this that the Prince has not maintained his own household hitherto. When he attained his legal majority on June 23, 1912—his eighteenth birthday—he was given his own apartments both at the Palace and at windsor Castle. Large suites of rooms were set apart for his personal use and that of his staff. This did not mean, however, that the Prince relaxed in any measure the family tie.

The Prince as is not widely appreciated is the understudy of the King, and is legally enabled to represent his Majesty at state functions at home or abroad or to act as Regent during his father's absence. Under these circumstances his signature to state decuments would be perfectly legal.

It has been seen that the daily routine of the Prince depends on his official duties and that the ordinary day in the life of the Heir to the Crown is taken up in official and private correspondence. In the evenings, when there are no official functions to attend he dines at Buckingham Palace. Recently however, he has extended his circle of friends and has taken up dancing of which he was always fond. This would necessitate his dining out.

Englishman.

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The talented members of the Arya Gana Sabha gave a benefit performance entitled 'Pavalakodi' in aid of the Imperial Soldiers' Relief Fund on Saturday last in the presence of a large and appreciative audience. The Collector Mr. C. G. Austin graced the occasion with his presence and remained there almost till the close of the performance. Over thirty Europeans including Mr. B. C. Scott and other Railway officials and military officers and ladies were present. The performance was a splendid success. The war song of Mr. K. S. Ananthanarayana Iyer was highly appreciated. His loyalty song which prayed for the long life and prosperity of the King-Emperor elecited the frequent applause of the audience. Mr. K. S. Chellappa Iyer's marvellous music kept the audience spell bound. Mr. K. V. Santhanakrishna Naidu, Manager, presented a beautiful purse containing Rs. 500 to the Collector as the contribution of the Sabah to the said Fund. The Collector acknowledged the contribution in handsome terms and paid a tribute of praise to the spirit of liberality which prompted the members of the Sabah to make the generous contribution to the Fund on the day when they were celebrating the peace with universal rejoicings. Mr. R. Srinivasa Rao thanked the audience for their patronage and referred to the heroic part played by the Allied Soldiers in the struggle for liberty and the duty of all right thinking men to give relief to the wounded and mutilated and their dependents. The Collector was garlanded by the manager and bouquets were distributed among ladies and gentlemen. The pleasing function came to a close at 1 A. M. in the night. The Police arrangements under the able supervision of Mr. Rao Sahib A. K. Rajah Iyer, Deputy Superintendent of Police, were excellent and left nothing to be desired.

IN THE COURT OE THE DISTRICT JUDGE OF TRICHINOPOLY

O. P. No 62/19.

IN THE MATTER OF AHILANDUM OF ALLUR, A MINOR

Venkatarama Ayyar Petitioner.

Notice is hereby given that an application has been made to the District Court of Trichinopoly in O. P. 62/19 by Venkatarama Ayyar, the petitioner, of Allur, Trichinopoly Taluk, to appoint him as guardian for the said minor Ahilandum of the above said village, and it will come on for hearing on 25—7—19.

The approximate total value of the minor's estate is Rs 24,065—0—0 and the net value of the estate is Rs 18432—0—0.

18th July, 1919 T. DESIKACHARI
Vakil for petitioner.

THE

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